THE SOCIAL PLANNING and RESEARCH COUNCIL
of Hamilton and District

155 JAMES STREET SOUTH, 6TH FLOOR HAMILTON, ONTARIO L8P 3A4 TELEPHONE 522-1148

# COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICE TRENDS IN HAMILTON-WENTWORTH

Presentation
to the
Agency Relations Committee
of the
United Way of Burlington/Hamilton-Wentworth
on
July 12, 1989
(Minor Revisions made September, 1989)

by

Gloria DeSantis
Research Director

The Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton and District

## PREAMBLE

The following information was presented at an Agency Relations Committee meeting on July 12, 1989. This report contains:-

1.0 Population and Community Trends (page 1)

2.0 Service Trends (page 11)

- 2.1 Services for Children and Youth (page 11)
- 2.2 Troubled Families and Individuals (page 13)
- 2.3 Community at Large (page 15)
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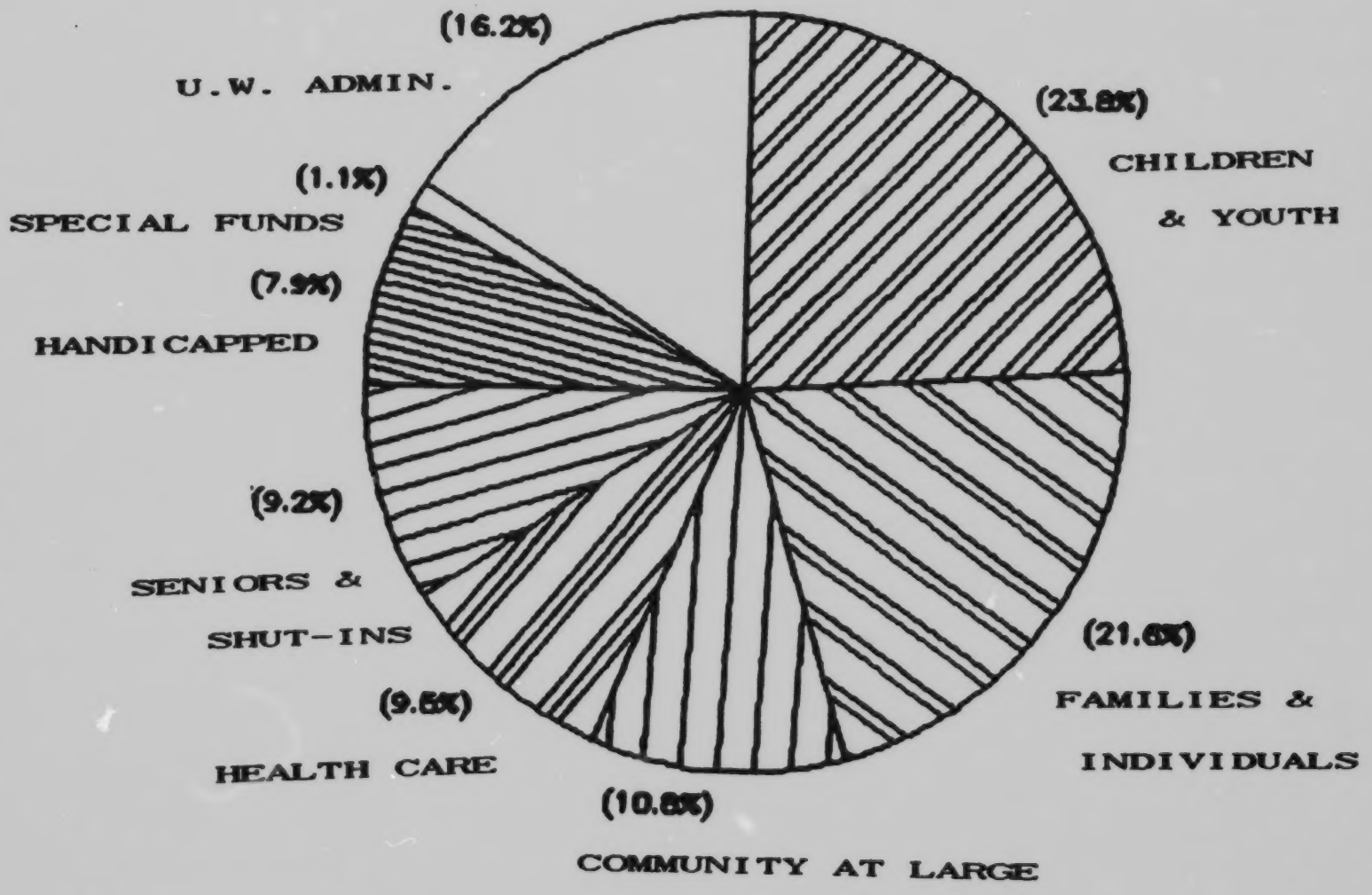
3.0 Future Developments (page 21)

Section 2 was modelled after the pie diagram developed by the United Way which displays allocations categories (see the following page).

A list of references is also included in this report. In general, the Social Planning and Research Council's community trends reports were developed from data collected at service provider consultations.

# UNITED WAY SERVICE ALLOCATIONS



# 1.0 POPULATION AND COMMUNITY TRENDS

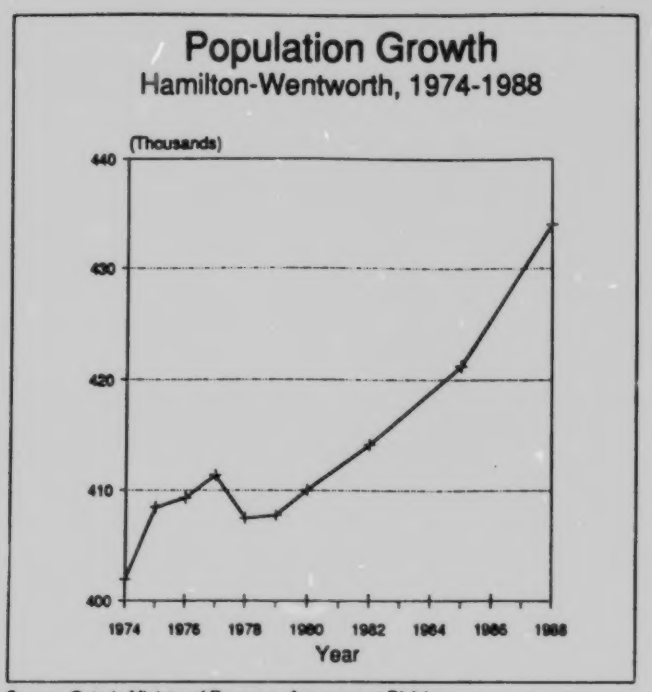
## 1.1 Population (reference #3 and #4)

- Hamilton-Wentworth's population was 434,000 in 1988; reflecting a steady increase since 1980.

- this population is expected to increase to 483,000 (12.5%) by 2006 under the "most likely" scenario.

- by 2006, this population could be as high as 511,000 if rates of fertility and migration increase.

- Hamilton-Wentworth has experienced a slower rate of growth than the Province as a whole since 1956.




Source: Ontario Ministry of Revenue, Assessment Division

**Average Annual Percent Growth, Actual and Projected**
**Hamilton-Wentworth and Ontario, 1956-2006**

| | | Hamilton-Wentworth | Ontario |
|---|---|---|---|
| ACTUAL | 1956-1961 | 2.5 | 2.9 |
| | 1961-1966 | 1.3 | 2.2 |
| | 1966-1971 | 1.0 | 2.2 |
| | 1971-1976 | 0.4 | 1.4 |
| | 1976-1981 | 0.1 | 0.9 |
| | 1981-1986 | 0.6 | 1.1 |
| PROJECTED | 1986-1991 | 1.0 | 1.7 |
| | 1991-1996 | 0.7 | 1.2 |
| | 1996-2001 | 0.6 | 0.9 |
| | 2001-2006 | 0.5 | 0.8 |

Source: Ontario Ministry of Treasury and Economics and Hamilton-Wentworth Planning and Development Department.

(For both of the above, reference #3)

Components of Growth

- natural increase (based on age structure, fertility, mortality rates) was the predominant source of the Region's growth between 1951 and 1986.

- since 1986 though, migration has accounted for 25% of the population growth and is expected to continue to do so.

- under the "most likely" scenario, international migration (as opposed to interprovincial or intraprovincial) is expected to be the largest source of the immigrant population.

- this projected increase has implications for immigrant services including the need for interpreters and culturally-sensitive services.

- in 1986, the largest "mother tongue" language groups were Italian, German, Polish, French, Portuguese and Ukrainian.

- the District Health Council (reference #2) notes the highest frequency of immigration (between 1981 and 1988) from Eastern Europe, Vietnam, Caribbean and Guyana and South and Central America.

**REGIONAL MIGRATION ASSUMPTIONS**

| | | Average Annual Migration | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MOST LIKELY | International | 48,000 x (4.0%) | 1,920 |
| 1989-1996 | Interprovincial | 10,000 x (1.0%) | 100 |
| | Intraprovincial | -630 | -630 |
| | TOTAL | | 1,390 |

| | | Average Annual Migration | |
|---|---|---|---|
| MOST LIKELY | International | 38,000 x (4.2%) | 1,600 |
| 1997-2006 | Interprovincial | 10,000 x (1.0%) | 100 |
| | Intraprovincial | -150 | -150 |
| | TOTAL | | 1,550 |

(reference #4)

Age Distribution

- the age structure of the population will change over the next 18 years.

- the number of children under 14 years is expected to increase until 1996 and then decline to its 1988 level (approximately 83,000); there is a need to design facilities for children which can be re-used for an alternate function in the future.

- persons aged 15 to 24 years of age are expected to decrease between 1988 and 1996 then increase to the year 2006; this is an important trend because this group is an important source of new labour force entrants.

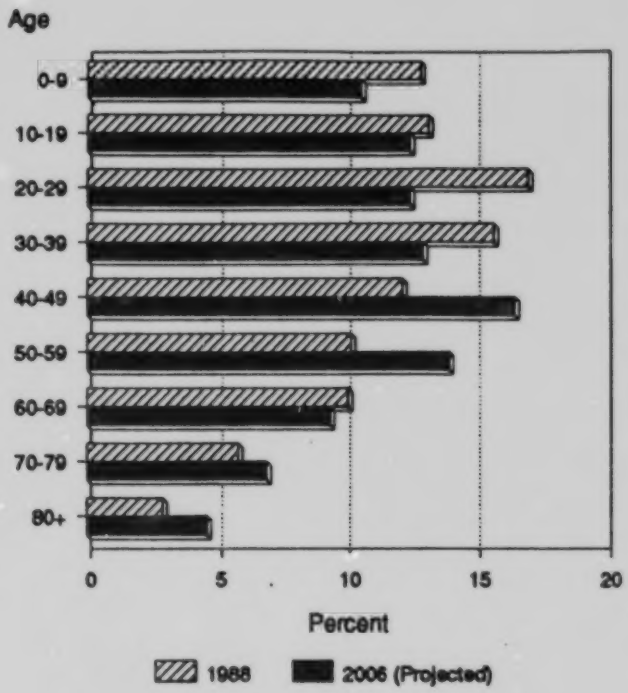
- a smaller proportion of the population aged 20 to 39 is expected, resulting in fewer young families, renters and home buyers.

- there will be a larger percentage of 40 to 59 and 60+ year old groups; there will be an increased emphasis on retraining older workers.

- by the year 2006, it is expected that the number of people 65+ will be nearing the number of children under 14 years.

- the growth in the elderly population will increase demands for services, transit passes and special transportation and accessible housing.

## Population Distribution by Age Group
### Hamilton-Wentworth, 1988 and 2006




Source: Hamilton-Wentworth Planning and Development Department and Ontario Ministry of Revenue

## Projected Population Growth by Age Cohort
### Hamilton-Wentworth, 1988-2006

| | 1988 | 1996 | 2006 | % Change 1988-2006 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0-14 | 82,910 | 87,900 | 83,000 | 0 |
| 15-24 | 64,391 | 57,700 | 61,900 | -4 |
| 25-39 | 105,721 | 107,600 | 92,500 | -13 |
| 40-64 | 119,175 | 136,200 | 171,700 | 44 |
| 65+ | 57,270 | 68,600 | 73,900 | 29 |
| TOTAL | 429,467 | 458,000 | 483,000 | 12 |

Source: Hamilton-Wentworth Planning and Development Department and Ontario Ministry of Revenue.

(For both of the above, reference #3)

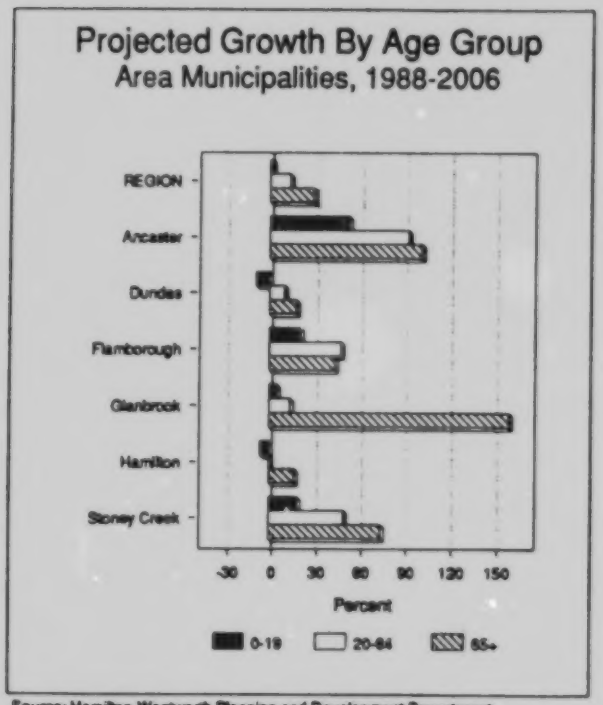
Geographical Distribution

- between 1985 and 1988, Ancaster, Stoney Creek and Flamborough grew most rapidly; mountain area of Hamilton also grew.

- between 1988 and 2006, Ancaster is expected to grow by 81.1%, Stoney Creek by 43.1% and Flamborough by 39.1%; consequently, requests for social service development in these municipalities is not unexpected.

- in Dundas and Hamilton, the 0-19 age group is expected to decrease but increase in Stoney Creek, Flamborough and Ancaster.

- the seniors population is expected to increase in all municipalities.




Source: Hamilton-Wentworth Planning and Development Department

(reference #3)

## Population and Population Shares
## Hamilton-Wentworth and Area Municipalities, 1971-88

| | Hamilton | Ancaster | Flamborough | Dundas | Stoney Creek | Glanbrook | Hamilton-Wentworth |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1971 Population | 309,173 | 15,087 | 20,930 | 18,740 | 27,373 | 9,936 | 401,239 |
| Pop. Share (%) | 77.1 | 3.8 | 5.2 | 4.7 | 6.8 | 2.5 | 100 |
| 1976 Population | 312,003 | 14,255 | 23,580 | 19,179 | 30,294 | 10,179 | 409,490 |
| Pop. Share (%) | 76.2 | 3.5 | 5.8 | 4.7 | 7.4 | 2.5 | 100 |
| 1981 Population | 306,434 | 14,428 | 24,470 | 19,586 | 36,762 | 9,765 | 411,445 |
| Pop. Share (%) | 74.5 | 3.5 | 5.9 | 4.8 | 8.9 | 2.4 | 100 |
| 1986 Population | 306,728 | 17,264 | 26,142 | 20,118 | 43,554 | 9,592 | 423,398 |
| Pop. Share (%) | 72.4 | 4.1 | 5.9 | 4.8 | 10.3 | 2.3 | 100 |
| 1988 Population | 307,160 | 19,728 | 27,116 | 20,640 | 45,329 | 9,493 | 429,466 |
| Pop. Share (%) | 71.5 | 4.6 | 6.3 | 4.8 | 10.6 | 2.2 | 100 |

Notes: Counts were conducted during summer months and thus do not include much of the population of McMaster University
Municipal shares may not add to 100 due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Canada and Ontario Ministry of Revenue, 1988

(reference #4)

## 1.2 Housing

- the Hamilton-Wentworth Housing Authority has a waiting list of people needing subsidized housing.

| | # of families in need | # of seniors in need |
|---|---|---|
| 1983 | 735 | 62 |
| 1989 (May) | 905 | 312 |

There are many non-profit housing providers with waiting lists too.

- vacancy rate for rental units hovers around .4%.

- if a person earns $26,800, he/she can afford to buy a $76,500 house (without paying more than 30% of his/her income on shelter).

- from the Royal LePage Survey of House Prices (reference #5)

| | Average Purchase Price | | % Change |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 1981 | 1988 | |
| detached bungalow | $62,000 | $120,000 | 97%+ |
| townhouse | $30,000 | $ 92,000 | 207%+ |

## 1.3 Employment (reference #6 and #8)

- unemployment rates have fallen steadily since 1983. The age distribution of the unemployed population has also shifted; fewer younger workers and an increased number of older workers.

- the number of service sector and managerial/professional occupations is increasing but there is much slower growth in manufacturing sector.

- job creation is happening at the lower end of the wage scales within the service sector while job losses have included higher wage blue-collar positions resulting in an increase in the number of "working poor".

- there is an increase in the female labour force participation rate.

- there is a decreasing demand for employment services for youth.

- there is an increasing demand for services for unemployed older workers (due to industrial displacement); this trend is expected to increase. The Hamilton Help Centre of the Citizen Action Group has been able to develop a very cost effective response to the needs of older workers; problems have been encountered securing ongoing federal funding.

- the Report of the Social Assistance Review Committee (Thompson Report) has recommended an expansion in employment-development services for social assistance recipients; the report also recommended that the voluntary sector should play a significant role. Thus, United Way member agencies will increase their involvement in this activity.

1.4. Poverty

- growth in two-income families will continue to rise because of the high cost of housing and greater opportunities for female labour force participation.

- the effects of economic recovery on family incomes have been mixed (replacement of manufacturing jobs with service sector jobs and lower incomes).

- the number of low income economic families and low income unattached individuals continues to rise in Hamilton-Wentworth (reference #12).

| Low Income: | 1981 Census | 1986 Census |
|---|---|---|
| Families | 15,600 | 16,780 |
| Individuals | 17,125 | 19,630 |

- approximately 24% of the private households in Hamilton-Wentworth live on incomes less than $15,000/year (reference #12).

- 14.4% of the families in Hamilton-Wentworth are considered low income families; Hamilton has the 8th highest percentage in Ontario (reference #10).

- refer to Appendix A for an overview of General Welfare Assistance (GWA), Family Benefits (FBA), GAINS-D and minimum wage in comparison to low income cut-offs (reference #7).

## 1.5 The Family

- there will be fewer young families; we will see an increase in household heads aged 45-59 years (reference #8).

- the number of lone parent families is increasing according to Statistics Canada; in 1981, there were 13,045 lone parent families but in 1986, there was an increase to 14,415. The 1986 figure represents 12.5% of all families in Hamilton-Wentworth; Hamilton-Wentworth ranks 8th highest in Ontario with this percent of lone parents. (This 12.5% rate is not expected to grow a lot in the nineties as the most divorce-prone age group [young families] continues to decrease in size.)

- decreases in the number of young adults and low marriage rates will reduce the rate of family formation during the 1990's. The number of families in the Region will, therefore, remain relatively stable, unless there are changes in migration patterns.

## 2.0 Service Trends

(references #6 to #10)

### 2.1 Services for Children and Youth

a) Child Care

- there are 150 families on waiting lists for subsidized care.
- subsidies are paid by the Region on a cost-shared basis with the Ministry of Community and Social Services.
- the escalated demand is related to the higher rate of female participation in the labour force.
- demand may be less pronounced for infant and pre-school programs with greater pressure for before and after school programs. The demand will be for child care in schools or near the place of residence.
- United Way will probably have little impact on this issue.

b) Street Youth

- A.A.T.D. and S.P.R.C. are involved in a needs assessment.
- there is an ongoing need for expanded crisis services for children (family and children's services noted street youth are a key priority).
- many of the services available in the 1960's and early 1970's are no longer operating because of the decreased demand in the late 1970's and early 1980's.
- service providers are very concerned about drug and alcohol abuse in this population.
- recommendations will be part of the research.

c) Foster Care

- there is growth in the number of reported child welfare cases and an under-supply of foster homes.

d) Kindergarten and Pre-kindergarten Classes

- there is a shift in our perception of education.

- recent changes including an expansion to full day kindergarten will affect child care demand.

## 2.2 Troubled Families and Individuals

### a) Family Violence

- during the past five years, the incidence of reported spouse and child abuse has risen (increase of 108% in Catholic Children's Aid Society during the past year) and agencies see demands in the following areas:

  child welfare services - Children's Aid Societies doing self-help and specialized programs and dealing with young runaway population.

  second stage housing for victims - the Municipal Non-Profit Housing Corporation is committed to reserving units for victims but there is a chronic lack now. United Way should not become involved with "bricks and mortar" but probably has a role regarding support services and assisting with developmental costs of community groups.

  support services - Victims Services Task Force is attempting to develop a more co-ordinated approach for responding to domestic disputes (60-70% of their calls are domestic violence calls). Three categories of support services include:

  1. assist victims to cope with their trauma
  2. assist victims to establish economic and social independence
  3. assist "abusers" to change their behaviour.

  There is the potential for United Way funding in all three.

  There is a need for support services for teenage mothers, particularly those who have been abused.

  family counselling - Family Services of Hamilton-Wentworth and Children and Family Services are devoting more resources to victims of family violence creating problems in ability to respond to other issues.

### b) Continued Need for Services to Unemployed Older Workers

- retraining is critical

- given rapidly changing labour force needs, based upon rapid technological change, retraining programs will be required to support workers during all stages of their careers.

c) Employment Services for Social Assistance Recipients

- the Thompson Report has recommended that the voluntary sector play a significant role in expanding employment - development services for social assistance recipients. Thus, United Way member agencies will increase their involvement in this activity over the next couple of years.

d) Poverty and a Lack of Affordable Housing is a Major Source of Family Stress

- economic stress is prevalent among low income families trying to maintain accomodation.

- many children entering residential care because their families cannot find affordable and suitable housing.

- another result is homeless youth living on the street.

## 2.3 Community at Large

### a) Affordable Housing

- the lack of affordable housing has been ongoing for awhile now.

Access to Permanent Housing Program funded:-

i) Housing Help Centre

ii) YWCA Support Program for Homeless Women

These may result in future requests for United Way funding.

- the primary problems of affordable housing are cost and land acquisition.

- housing prices are expected to level off but housing problems will not be solved without major initiatives in non-profit housing.

- Regional Chairman has recently struck an Affordable Housing Task Force.

- SPRC has received a Ministry of Housing grant of $57,000 to develop a program that will encourage community acceptance of affordable housing.

- there is probably little need for United Way funding to "build" housing but instead funding for support programs is important.

### b) Use of Emergency Food Services Remains High

- as people spend more on housing costs, a larger number of working poor and social assistance recipients are utilizing emergency food services.

- the decrease in the unemployment rate and General Welfare Assistance caseloads, but continued use of emergency food services suggests the "working poor" population are increasingly the users.

### c) Culturally Sensitive Services and Language Issues

- the projected increase in international immigrants has implications for services including the need for interpreters and culturally-sensitive services.

- the French Language Services Act will have an effect on services.

- there is an increasing awareness of the service needs of native Canadians.

d) Continued Increase in Emphasis upon Community-Based Policing and Prevention

- for example, Neighbourhood Watch, Block Parents and Foot Patrol.

- Public Health, Police and the Social Planning and Research Council are engaged in planning for these services.

- there are difficulties developing these services where they are really needed (e.g., high crime areas).

e) Victims Services Task Force

- see section 2.2

## 2.4 Services that Support and Promote Health Care

### a) Self-Help "Movement"

- refers to mutual aid and minimal professional involvements; it is not limited to the health sector but the biggest boom in the last few years has been in health-oriented groups.

- SPRC and Prevention Network are involved in assisting a number of groups re: "need" for a centralized facility that would provide basic overhead support without requiring that groups become incorporated. A proposal is expected during the Fall, 1989.

- Community Information Service receives a variety of requests for self-help support groups (reference #1).

### b) AIDS

- recent government funding has come to Hamilton-Wentworth re: AIDS work through McMaster Medical Centre, the Public Health Department and Hamilton AIDS Network for Dialogue and Support (HANDS).

- the street youth population requires consideration here because of drug abuse and prostitution.

- United Way funding is not required immediately but a Demonstration and Development request may come forward during the next couple of years.

## 2.5 Seniors and Shut-Ins

- the proportion of elderly aged 75+ will continue to increase to the year 2006.

- this group requires the majority of social and health services.

### a) Home Support and Respite Care

- both of these are priorities.

- Ministry of Health's recent budget reveals an increase in community-based services.

- a number of community-based Ministry of Health Services may be transferred to the Ministry of Community and Social Services in the future.

- a Caregiver Support Service was introduced (through V.O.N.) in the past year to provide relief to family members caring for the "confused" elderly in their own home (20 hrs./month of relief care).

- a Homesharing Program (through V.O.N.) screens and matches Hamilton-Wentworth residents who are 18 years or older for accommodation. Matches are made between people looking for housing and those wanting to share their accommodation. Community Information Service documents this through its unmet needs list.

- it is expected that the government will increase funds to home support services during the next five years.

- there is still a concern regarding alternatives to institutionalization of the old-old (e.g., What about the "Hospital-in-the-Home" program?).

- "One-Stop-Access" model could be implemented in Hamilton-Wentworth in the near future; United Way member agencies will probably be involved.

- Community Information Service notes the need (from a number of calls) for an individual or agency to assist older people with odd jobs around the house; these jobs are not covered through Home Care, etc.

### b) Public Transportation

- there is an ongoing need for improved public transportation for increasing numbers of seniors.

c) Lack of Information About Seniors' Services

- Mapping the Way to the Future (District Health Council and Region of Hamilton-Wentworth, 1988) was a region-wide study on the seniors' population. It revealed that relatively few seniors were aware of the services available to them. The study recommended that Community Information Centres undertake a co-ordinated campaign to ensure that service providers and citizens are better informed about services. And the funders "be more conscious of budgetary needs of service promotion" in the services. United Way could have an impact here.

d) Unique Needs of Disabled Seniors

- as developmentally disabled people move into retirement and old age, they will require special services.

- deaf seniors also have unique needs.

## 2.6 Services for the Physically and Mentally Disabled

### a) Expected Increase in Proportion of Population

- with technological advances, we will see a general increase in the life expectancy of disabled people; disabled newborns will survive to adulthood and, therefore, require physical and social supports throughout their life cycle.

- there will be an increase in service costs because of new and costly technological aids.

- deinstitutionalization increases the numbers in the community.

- there is an increased need for improved transportation services for the disabled. Gaps between supply and demand have not yet been alleviated and will worsen with increased number of adolescents and adults.

- housing and employment continue to be a major concern. The Thompson Report (SARC) recommends that disabled people do not lose their benefits if they find employment.

### b) Respite Care, Social and Recreational Programs

- with an increase in community-based living will come an increase in demand for respite care, social and recreational programs. There is a need to support independent community living.

### c) Client Participation

- client demands for participation in the planning and delivery of services are expected to increase.

### d) D.I.S.H. (Disability Information Service Helpline)

- new service began this year to assist disabled people to access needed services and resources.

### e) Outreach Attendant Care Program (housing-oriented)

- March of Dimes and Chedoke Hospital's Integrated Living Project assists disabled people to live in the community.

## 3.0 FUTURE SYSTEM-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENTS

(i.e., larger, structural initiatives that will have major impacts on the service system)

3.1 The final report of the Provincial-Municipal Social Services Review will be published in November, 1989. This may result in significant changes in funding, delivery and planning of services at the community level.

3.2 The Ministry of Community and Social Services will be publishing a report regarding "accountability" in funded agencies (many of which are United Way funded agencies).

3.3 The implementation of Phase I of the Social Assistance Review Committee's report (Thompson Report) will result in an increase in the level of social benefits paid, an expansion in employment development programs and the possible amalgamation of Family Benefits Assistance and General Welfare Assistance programs.

3.4 There is a possible shift in Ministry of Community and Social Services and Ministry of Health responsibilities. We may hear the details of these plans during the next twelve months.

3.5 The Community Services Planning Group (Hamilton-based and co-ordinated through the Social Planning and Research Council) will introduce a new and expanded approach to co-ordination and priority setting within the local service system.

3.6 A new mechanism is being planned in Hamilton-Wentworth to respond to consumers' concerns about abuse or unprofessional conduct by social service providers (i.e., a mechanism like a Better Business Bureau for community-based agencies).

3.7 There has already been an increased emphasis upon joint ventures and partnerships among Ministries and service providers. Based upon a recognition that most social problems cross Ministerial and political boundaries, there has been an increased emphasis on joint ventures. Local examples include: the joint review of seniors' services and needs by Regional Social Services and the District Health Council; and, the S.A.R.S. working group which has developed specific, local responses to provincial and national employment programs. At a provincial level, the Access to Permanent Housing Program, an initiative of the Ministries of Housing and Community and Social Services, illustrates this trend. Federally, the increased trend towards de-centralization and "community-partnerships" within the Canada Employment and Immigration Commission is a good example.

3.8 Pay Equity Legislation, the Goods and Services Tax, etc. will have a financial impact on United Way agencies.

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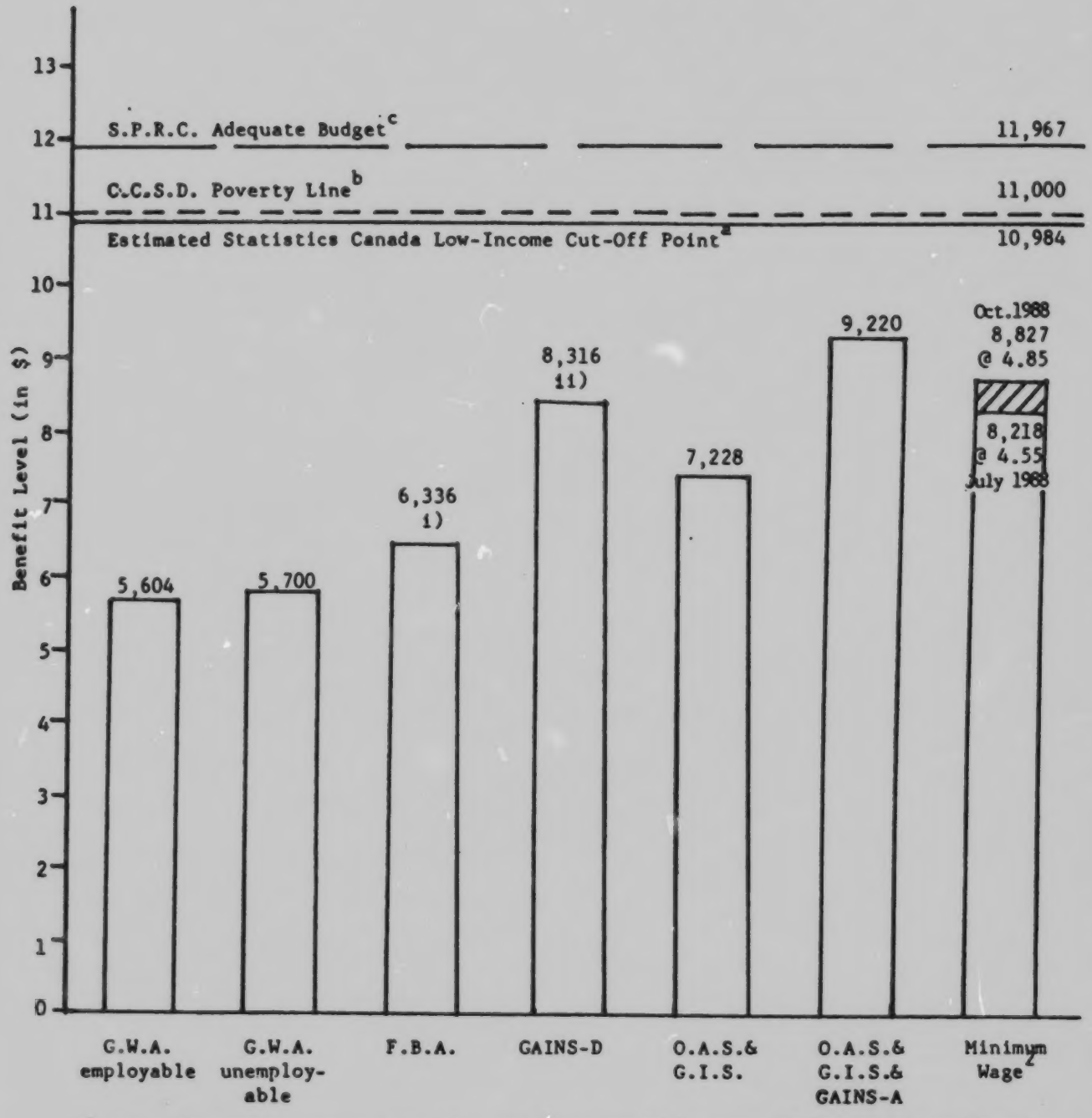
#12. Statistics Canada. 1986 Census Tracts, Hamilton: Part 2, 1988, #95-114.

APPENDIX A

FIGURE 1: MAXIMUM ANNUAL INCOME BY PROGRAM[1] - SINGLE ADULT

(Summer 1988)




i) not a frequent occurance as the recipient would be over 65 but not considered unemployable or disabled or not in Canada long enough for O.A.S. eligibility.

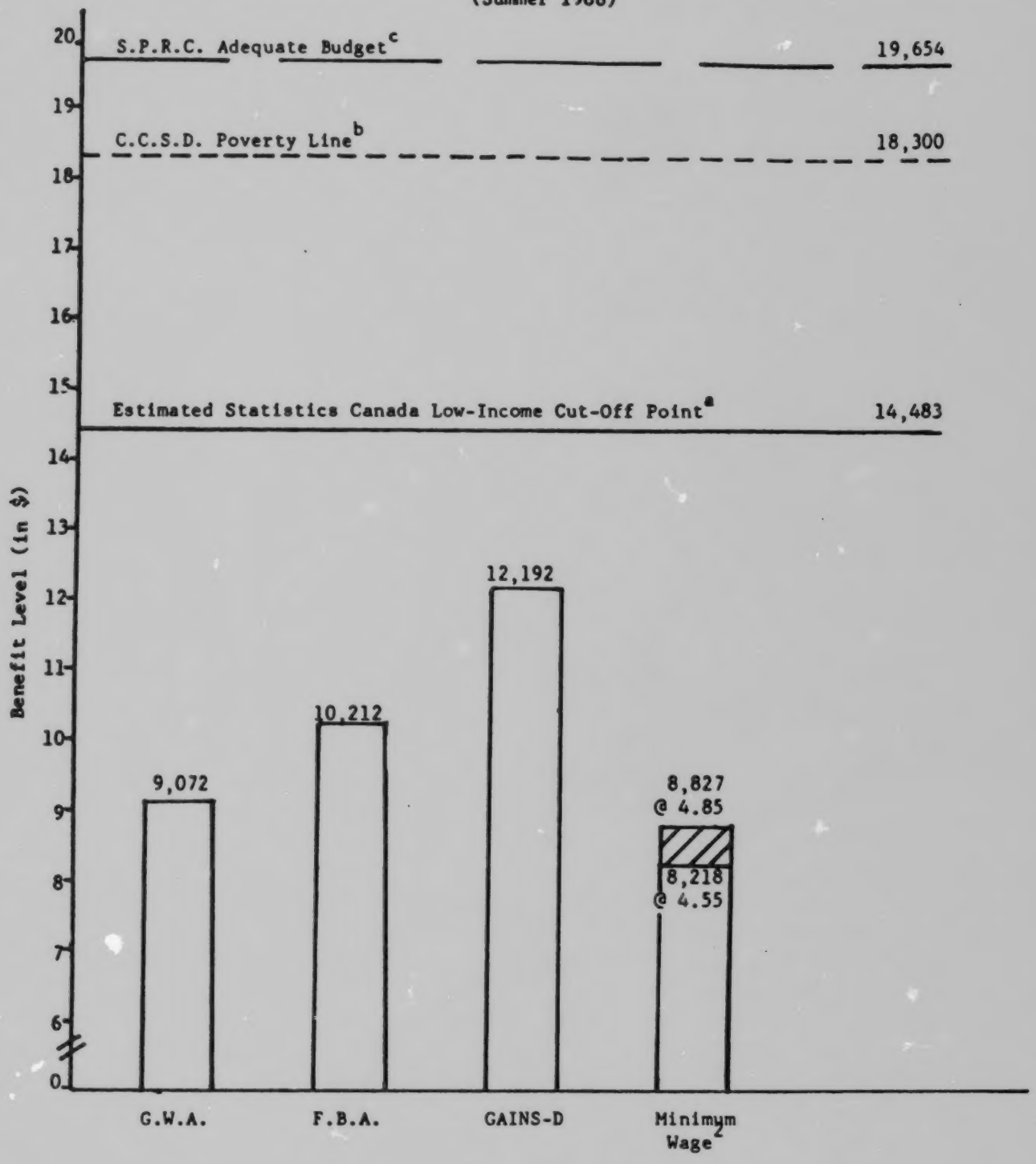
ii) GAINS-D refer to applicants who are renters, owners and private market boarders.

For explanation of notations a, b, c (poverty lines) and 1, 2 see Appendix A.

(reference #7)

FIGURE 3: MAXIMUM ANNUAL INCOME BY PROGRAM[1] - ONE ADULT AND ONE CHILD (LESS THAN 9 YEARS)

(Summer 1988)




For explanation of notations a, b, c (poverty line) and 1, 2 see Appendix A.